

Claims

1. A measuring apparatus comprising a handle having a tape-holder and pendulum attached thereto such that a measuring tape can extend to a variable extent sideways out of the tape-holder with the pendulum hanging vertically downwards.
2. A measuring apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pendulum has a marker at its free end.
3. A measuring apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the pendulum is adjustable in length.
4. A measuring apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the pendulum comprises a multi-part rod.
5. A measuring apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the rod is telescopic.
6. A measuring apparatus as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the pendulum comprises a plumb line.
7. A measuring apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the handle has a socket and the upper end of the pendulum has a ball rotatably retained in the socket.
8. A measuring apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the tape holder is arranged to rotate on the handle about an axis which is substantially vertical when the tape extends sideways from the tape-holder and the pendulum hangs vertically downwards.

9. A measuring apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the measuring apparatus includes two tape holders each independently rotatable about a substantially common axis and each containing a measuring tape which can extend to a variable extent sideways out of the respective tape-holder.
10. A measuring apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the or each tape holder includes a tape lock for retaining the tape in a selected extended state.
11. A measuring apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the or each tape holder includes means for detecting and displaying the extent to which a tape extends from the tape holder.
12. A measuring apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the tape has a flat, curved or circular cross-section.
13. A kit of parts which can be assembled to form a measuring apparatus as claimed in any preceding claim.
14. A measuring kit comprising a measuring apparatus or kit of parts as claimed in any preceding claim and at least one wall bracket arranged to retain the free end of a tape extending from the tape holder.